

STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

Brian Sandoval, Governor
Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Director

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Colleen Cripps, Ph.D., Administrator

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION AND PUBLIC HEARING

Web Posting Date: 04/26/12

Pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 445B, the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) Chapter 445B, and the Clean Air Act, the Division of Environmental Protection is issuing the following Notice of Proposed Action.

The Administrator has received an application for a Phase-2 Nevada Mercury Operating Permit to Construct from the following applicant:

Newmont Midas Operations, Inc., Ken Snyder Mine HC 66, Box 125 Midas, Nevada 89414

The Administrator has prepared a tentative determination regarding the Mercury Operating Permit to Construct (MOPTC) AP1041-2253 that, in brief, affect the following source: two furnaces, one retort.

The draft MOPTC proposes mercury emissions performance standards and mercury emissions control technologies determined to be NvMACT pursuant to NAC 445B.3683.2(b). Initial determination of the NvMACT mercury emissions performance limit for all units: 5×10^{-3} gr/dscf of mercury. Determination of proposed NvMACT mercury emissions control technology for the furnace system includes: One baghouse, one venture scrubber with cyclone, and a carbon filter system. Determination of proposed NvMACT mercury emissions control technology for the retort system includes: Two Mercury Condensers (operating in series), equipped with a chiller, a condensation vessel, an after cooler with mist eliminator and two sulfur impregnated carbon columns (operating in parallel).

The tentative MOPTC activities include monitoring, recordkeeping, annual stack testing for mercury emissions, annual emissions reporting, annual mercury co-product reporting,, limits of operation, and work practice standards which minimize emissions of mercury to the atmosphere. Other permit contents include mercury emission limits for the retorts.

On the basis of the preliminary review and the requirements of the NRS, and the NAC, the Administrator is hereby announcing his intent to issue the MOPTC based on review of the information, as proposed. A copy of the draft permit will be available for public inspection at the following location:

Elko Public Library 720 Court Street Elko, NV 89801

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed determinations by the Administrator regarding this proposed action, or to request a hearing pursuant to NRS 445B Air Pollution and NAC 445B Air Controls, should submit their comments or request in writing, either in person or by mail or fax, within thirty (30) days to:

Nikita Lingenfelter
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Air Pollution Control
901 S. Stewart St, Suite 4001
Carson City, Nevada 89701-5249
(775) 687-9539
(775) 687-6396 FAX

The application, draft permit, any comments received, and other relevant information may be copied at the above address, or copies may be obtained by written request to the above address. Written comments or objections will be retained and considered prior to final action on the MOPTC. Comments or objections must be received at the above address by May25, 2012. Upon a valid written request received prior to the end of the comment period, the Administrator may schedule a public hearing on the application and proposed action. Please bring the foregoing notice to the attention of all persons whom you know may be interested in this matter.